

Appl. No. 10/798,7888
Amdt. Dated February 14, 2007
Reply to Official Action of November 15, 2006
Attorney File No. 8022-001

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. In particular, it was held that Claim 1 recited the limitation "the saddlebag locking mechanism, the rigid locking tubular handle and the U-shaped rigid locking rod" lacked sufficient antecedent basis in the Specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The definition of the word mechanism and arrangement define essentially the same thing. In fact, Webster's New World College Dictionary defines "mechanism" as the "working parts or arrangement of parts of a machine." However, since the Applicant did not use the word "mechanism" in the Specification but rather the word "arrangement", (see Page 6, Line 4) the Applicant has amended the claim accordingly.

The Applicant has also mentioned the phrase "a saddlebag locking arrangement" in saddlebags throughout the specification. (See, for example, Page 5, Line 2, Page 6, Line 4, Fig. 8, call outs 8, 9, 10 as well as the remaining figures which show the saddlebags locked to the referenced two wheeled vehicle via the claimed arrangement.) Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Specification was rejected for omitting essential structural elements, in particular, a gap between the necessary structural connections between the upper rectangular bag and the U-shaped rigid rod and locking elements.

Claim 1, as amended, has made this structural cooperation clearer and therefore Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Office has acknowledged that Claims 1 - 4 would be allowed if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections set forth in this Official Action. The Applicant has done accordingly. Therefore, the claims as amended are now allowable.

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It is felt that a full and complete response has been made to the *Official Action* as such, and places the application in condition for issue. Such issue is hereby respectfully requested. If the Examiner feels, for any reason, that a personal interview will expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to phone Applicant's attorney.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment required by this paper to *Deposit Account 502694*.

Respectfully submitted,



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